

~~1.~~ (Amended) An apparatus, in combination with a counter wheel, for capacitively determining a position of the counter wheel comprising:

fixed electrodes arranged at a distance from the counter wheel; and means for changing a capacitance on the basis of position, the means for changing the capacitance on the basis of position including: a sequence of measurement electrodes extending over a circumference of the counter wheel, and electrically nonconductive sections arranged between said measurement electrodes.

~~2.~~ (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fixed electrodes are arranged along the circumference of the counter wheel.

~~3.~~ (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the counter wheel has a body made of an electrically nonconductive material.

~~4.~~ (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the counter wheel has a body made of an electrically conductive material having recesses which are distributed over the circumference and contain electrically nonconductive inserts.

~~5.~~ (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fixed electrodes are combined in pairs, wherein all the measurement electrodes on the counter wheel are of the same length, and wherein each pair is of a common length which corresponds to the length of the measurement electrodes on the counter wheel.

6. (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein each pair of electrodes comprises:

an emitter electrode and a collector electrode, with adjacent electrodes in two adjacent pairs being of a same type.

7. (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein an opposing electrode is provided which extends along at least half the circumference of the counter wheel at a distance therefrom.

8. (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein at least one of four fixed electrodes and four electrode pairs are provided.

9. (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the distance between the measurement electrodes and the fixed electrodes, which are respectively opposite them, according to the position of the counter wheel, is at least approximately the same.

10. (Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the sequence distributed over the circumference involves a first measurement electrode followed in sequence by a first nonconductive section, a second measurement electrode followed by two nonconductive sections, and third and fourth measurement electrodes followed by three nonconductive sections.

Please add the following claims 11-20:

11. (NEW) An apparatus for capacitively determining a position of the counter wheel, the apparatus comprising:  
a sequence of measurement electrodes configured to extend over a circumference of a counter wheel; and  
electrically nonconductive sections arranged between said measurement electrodes; and  
fixed electrodes arranged at a distance from the sequence of measurement electrodes.

12. (NEW) The apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the fixed electrodes are arranged along the circumference of the counter wheel.

13. (NEW) The apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the counter wheel has a body made of an electrically nonconductive material.

14. (NEW) The apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the counter wheel has a body made of an electrically conductive material having recesses which are distributed over the circumference and contain electrically nonconductive inserts.

15. (NEW) The apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the fixed electrodes are combined in pairs, wherein all the measurement electrodes on the counter wheel are of

the same length, and wherein each pair is of a common length which corresponds to the length of the measurement electrodes on the counter wheel.

16. (NEW) The apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein each pair of electrodes comprises:

an emitter electrode and a collector electrode, with adjacent electrodes in two adjacent pairs being of a same type.

17. (NEW) The apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein an opposing electrode is provided which extends along at least half the circumference of the counter wheel at a distance therefrom.

18. (NEW) The apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein at least one of four fixed electrodes and four electrode pairs are provided.

19. (NEW) The apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the distance between the measurement electrodes and the fixed electrodes, which are respectively opposite them, according to the position of the counter wheel, is at least approximately the same.

20. (NEW) The apparatus as claimed in claim 15, wherein the sequence distributed over the circumference involves a first measurement electrode followed in sequence by a first nonconductive section, a second measurement electrode followed by